

prepared by SHRB
sent to Patshan
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Studies - Hecht

COMMENTARY ON:

Hecht, S. et al., "A Tobacco-Smoke
of Men Exposed to Cigarette
329(21): 1543-1548

ing Carcinogen in the Urine
England Journal of Medicine

File
ECS

report that trace
ed "tobacco-specific
of nonsmokers exposed
ten nonsmoking male
poorly ventilated
samples from the
one experimental exposure
converted by the body from the tobacco-
rosamine "NNK." The authors reported that urinary
levels of NNK metabolites are significantly increased after
exposure to tobacco smoke. The authors claim to have shown that a
suspected carcinogen, NNK, "is taken up and metabolized by
nonsmokers who are exposed to sidestream cigarette smoke," and
their results "therefore provide evidence supporting the link
between exposure to environmental tobacco smoke and the risk of
lung cancer."

Response:

- The study was conducted under highly artificial conditions
and, as such, does not shed light upon exposure levels of NNK

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